

FIS920030057US1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR: G. Natarajan) EXAMINER: C. P. Bruenjes
SERIAL NO.: 10/604,191)
FILING DATE: June 20, 2003) ART UNIT: 1722
FOR: Supported Greensheet) DATE: December 22, 2004
Structure and Method in)
MLC Processing)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop _____
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 9, 2004, and the restriction requirement made therein, applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-22, drawn to a method of forming openings, for continued examination herein.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that 35 USC § 121 authorizes restriction only when the claimed invention is "independent and distinct" (emphasis added). A search of the subject matter of Group I, claims 1-22, drawn to a method of forming openings would require a search of the subject matter of Group II, claims 23-29 drawn to a greensheet. Thus the method delineated in Group I is not directed to an independent and distinct matter.

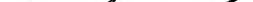
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop _____, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Va 22313-1450.

Name: Barbara Browne Date: December 22, 2004 Signature: 
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